

Message Text

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44

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-07 INR-10 L-03 ACDA-19

NSAE-00 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 USIA-15 TRSE-00

SAJ-01 DODE-00 H-03 NSC-07 SS-20 OMB-01 DRC-01 EURE-00

EB-11 COME-00 /133 W

----- 098261

P R 101555Z JUN 74

FM AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3942

INFO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS UNN

USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS

C O N F I D E N T I A L LUXEMBOURG 0365

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, LU

SUBJ: FORMATION OF NEW GOL

1. ON JUNE 7 FOREIGN MINISTER THORN (WHO IS GOL FORMATEUR) TOLD ME THAT NEGOTIATIONS ON THE FORMATION OF A NEW GOVERNMENT COMPOSED OF THE PD AND POSL WERE GOING WELL ALTHOUGH THE SOCIALISTS LACKED STRONG LEADERSHIP AND THE TWO PARTIES WERE NOT IN COMPLETE AGREEMENT ON ECONOMIC POLICY. THORN EXPLAINED THAT THE POSL PROPOSED RAISING CORPORATION TAXES, BROADENING THE WELFARE PROGRAM AND TIGHTENING LUXEMBOURG'S NEW COGESTION LAW, BUT THAT THE PD WOULD RESIST THE LAST MENTIONED INITIATIVE. WHEN I TOLD THORN THAT THE US COMPANIES IN LUXEMBOURG WERE ASKING QUESTIONS ABOUT THE NEW GOVERNMENT'S ECONOMIC POLICIES, THORN SAID THAT HE WOULD BE WILLING TO MEET WITH REPRESENTATIVES OF US FIRMS SHORTLY IN ORDER TO REASSURE THEM ABOUT FUTURE ECONOMIC POLICIES.

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2. THORN ADDED THAT HE HAD APPROACHED PRIME MINISTER

WERNER AFTER THE ELECTIONS TO EXPLORE THE POSSIBILITY
OF A PD/PCS ACCORD, BUT THAT WERNER WHO HAD BEEN TRAUMATIZED
BY HIS PARTY'S LOSSES AND BY HIS OWN MEDIOCRE SHOWING
HAD DECLINED THE OFFER TO EXPLORE COALITION POSSIBILITIES.
THORN SAID THAT WERNER, WHO "HAS A ROLE TO PLAY ESPECIALLY
IN THE FINANCIAL SPHERE", MAY NOW REGRET HIS REFUSAL
BUT THAT IF TALKS BETWEEN THE PD AND POSL FAIL, HE
FORESEES THE POSSIBILITY OF NEW ELECTIONS SO THAT THE
VOTERS CAN AGAIN INDICATE THEIR PREFERENCES CONCERNING THE
COMPOSITION OF A NEW GOL. FARKAS

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